

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-03

INFO OCT-01 SIG-02 ISO-00 /006 R

66011

DRAFTED BY:AF/P:JMPOPE

APPROVED BY:AF/P:JMPOPE

S/S -O:RMPERITO

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O P 172027Z SEP 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY RABAT PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TUNIS PRIORITY

XMT AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

UNCLAS STATE 230927

FOLLOWING LUSAKA 2465 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO USINFO WASHDC

DAR ES SALAAM PRETORIA KINSHASA NAIROBI LONDON SEPT. 17;

REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

UNCLAS LUSAKA 2465

FOR SPRS; DEPT PASS NSC FOR MR. SCOWCROFT AND WHITE HOUSE FOR

MR. NESSEN

USINFO FOR IPS/PA, IBS/PA, IAA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJ: PRESIDENT KAUNDA'S PRESS CONFERENCE

FOLLOWING IS FULL TEXT OF PRESIDENT KAUNDA'S PRESS CONFERENCE

AT STATE HOUSE THIS MORNING, SEPTEMBER 17:

Q. WE WOULD LIKE TO HEAR ABOUT YOUR MEETING THIS MORNING WITH DR. KISSINGER AND WHO ELSE DR. KISSINGER IS GOING TO SEE HERE.

KAUNDA: I HAVE HAD VERY USEFUL DISCUSSIONS I DON'T THINK THERE IS A DIFFERENCE IN THE ANALYSIS OF THE PROBLEM IN SOUTHERN AFRICA BETWEEN OUR STAND, THAT THE FIVE OF US, AND THE ANALYSIS THAT YOUR AMERICAN GOVERNMENT IS MAKING. I THINK WE ALL UNDERSTAND WHAT THE SITUATION MEANS, AND SO, AS I SAID YESTERDAY, WE WISH THE SECRETARY OF STATE THE BEST OF LUCK. HE HAS OUR PRAYERS. ON THE OTHER HAND, AS WE HAVE SAID SO MANY TIMES BEFORE, ZAMBIA AND THE OTHER COUNTRIES ARE NOT IN ANY WAY LETTING UP, LETTING OFF, RATHER, WE ARE GOING TO CONTINUE TO INTENSIFY THE ARMED STRUGGLE UNTIL OUR GOALS HAVE BEEN ATTAINED. THIS IS ALL I CAN SAY LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.

Q. DO YOU HAVE ANY VIEWS NOW OF THE USEFULNESS OF A MEETING BETWEEN DR. KISSINGER AND IAN SMITH? WOULD IT BE USEFUL OR HARMFUL AT THIS STAGE?

KAUNDA: I LEAVE THIS ENTIRELY IN THE HANDS OF DR. KISSINGER. HE WILL KNOW WHAT IS GOOD. WE HAVE TOLD HIM WHAT OUR POSITION IS HERE AND WE BELIEVE HIS HEART IS IN THE RIGHT PLACE, AND THEREFORE WE MUST LEAVE IT TO HIM. BUT CERTAINLY WE HAVE TO BE VERY CAREFUL THAT A MEETING BETWEEN DR. KISSINGER AND THE REBEL LEADER IAN SMITH DOES NOT LEND RESPECTABILITY TO HIM. THIS MUCH MUST BE SAID.

Q. IS IT FAIR TO SAY THAT YOU DO NOT OBJECT TO SUCH A MEETING PER SE?

KAUNDA: IT SHOULD BE REALIZED THAT I AM SAYING THAT IT ALL DEPENDS ON WHAT DR. KISSINGER IS MEETING IAN SMITH FOR. IF WE ARE NOT CAREFUL IT COULD GIVE THE REBEL LEADER RESPECTABILITY AND THIS UNCLASSIFIED

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WOULD BE ANOTHER DIPLOMATIC SCORE. HE IS A VERY SLIPPERY CHARACTER AS YOU KNOW. WE HAVE DEALT WITH HIM AND WE KNOW WHAT WE ARE TALKING ABOUT.

Q. AS KISSINGER GOES TO SOUTH AFRICA, HAS HE GIVEN ANY INDICATION THAT HIS TALKS WILL MAKE A FAST MOVE TOWARDS THE INDEPENDENCE OF NAMIBIA?

KAUNDA: ALL I CAN SAY COMRADE IS, DR. KISSINGER HAS GOT HIS HEART IN THE RIGHT PLACE BUT HE IS NOT THE FINAL DECIDING FACTOR IN THIS RESPECT. IT IS MR. VORSTER AND EVENTUALLY THE REBEL LEADER HIMSELF. AND WHEN I SAY THIS I AM NOT SAYING THAT THIS IS THE END. I AM TALKING ABOUT THE PEACE INITIATIVE. OTHERWISE THE REAL DECIDING FACTOR ARE THE PEOPLE THEMSELVES - THE PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE. I KNOW OF NO PEOPLE WHO HAVE DECIDED TO FIGHT FOR INDEPENDENCE, FREEDOM AND INDEPENDENCE, THAT HAVE FAILED. NONE AT ALL IN HISTORY.

Q. MR. PRESIDENT, DO YOU ANTICIPATE THAT BY THE TIME DR. KISSINGER COMES BACK TO REPORT TO YOU NEXT MONDAY, THAT HE WILL HAVE SEEN IAN SMITH?

KAUNDA: I DON'T KNOW, IT IS NOT FOR ME TO DECIDE. I WOULD NOT LIKE TO INFLUENCE HIM ONE WAY OR THE OTHER. ALL I CAN SAY IS THAT DR. KISSINGER HAS TO AVOID GIVING LEGITIMACY TO IAN SMITH AND EVEN AS I SAY THIS, I AM GLAD TO SAY, I AM CONFIDENT OF THE FACT THAT SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER WOULD NOT LIKE TO DO THAT.

Q. MR. PRESIDENT, MR. KISSINGER HAS TAKEN THE POSITION THAT IT WOULD BE BETTER FOR AFRICAN PRESIDENTS TO TAKE CARE OF THE DEALINGS WITH THE VARIOUS AFRICAN LIBERATION MOVEMENTS. DO YOU THINK AT THIS POINT IT WOULD BE GOOD FOR DR. KISSINGER TO MEET DIRECTLY WITH SOME OF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE AFRICAN LIBERATION MOVEMENTS BOTH IN SO FAR AS NAMIBIA AND ZIMBABWE ARE CONCERNED?

KAUNDA: WELL, MEETINGS WITH THE LEGITIMATE LEADERS OF THE PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE ARE MOST WELCOME, IN MY OPINION. THE MORE THERE ARE SUCH MEETINGS, THE BETTER.

Q. YOUR EXCELLENCY, IF DR. KISSINGER DOES NOT SEEM TO HAVE BROUGHT ANYTHING NEW, WOULD YOU SAY THEN THAT HIS MEETING HERE IS IRRELEVANT?

KAUNDA: I DID NOT EXPECT HIM TO BRING ANYTHING NEW BECAUSE WHETHER UNCLASSIFIED

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OR NOT THERE WILL BE SOMETHING NEW IN THE SITUATION WILL BE DETERMINED BY HIS MEETING MR. VORSTER IN PRETORIA.

Q. MR. PRESIDENT, WHAT WOULD DR. KISSINGER HAVE TO BRING BACK FROM THAT MEETING, FOR YOU TO BE ENCOURAGED THAT THERE SHOULD BE SOME PROGRESS.

KAUNDA: WELL, IN TERMS OF RHODESIA, ZIMBABWE TO-BE, WHAT WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE IN AFRICA, IN OAU CIRCLES, IS A FIRM DECLARATION BY THE REBEL LEADER THAT HE IS NOW IN FAVOR OF MAJORITY RULE, AND THEN OBVIOUSLY THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AS THE LEGITIMATE AUTHORITY IN THAT COLONY WOULD THEN HAVE TO TAKE THE NEXT NECESSARY STEPS. OVER THE QUESTION OF NAMIBIA, AGAIN, THE OAU HAS LAID DOWN CONDITIONS WHICH ARE VERY CLEAR. THESE ARE THAT WE WANT INDEPENDENCE, DE FACTO INDEPENDENCE ACCEPTED FOR NAMIBIA, AND IN THIS WHEN WE SPEAK OF INDEPENDENCE WE MEAN INDEPENDENCE FOR ALL THE PEOPLE WHO LEGITIMATELY CALL NAMIBIA THEIRS, REGARDLESS OF COLOR. AND WE WANT IN THIS RESPECT THIS CONFERENCE TO INCLUDE SWAPO, TO INCLUDE THE SOUTH AFRICAN AUTHORITIES; WANT THIS CONFERENCE TO HAVE UN PARTICIPATION AND INDEED THE PEOPLE THEMSELVES, THE PEOPLE AS A WHOLE, THE PEOPLE OF NAMIBIA AS A WHOLE. ONCE THAT IS DONE WE'D HOPE THAT THINGS WOULD FLOW FROM THERE, FROM THAT CONFERENCE.

Q. HAVE YOU ANY REAL HOPE THAT THERE IS ANY POSSIBILITY OF A FIRM DECLARATION BY IAN SMITH THAT HE IS IN FAVOR OF MAJORITY RULE

COMING OUT OF THIS MISSION?

KAUNDA: WE HAVE MADE OUR POINT VERY CLEAR. I SAID EARLIER ON THAT WHILE WE PRAY FOR THE SUCCESS OF THIS MISSION, AND INDEED WE WANT TO BE VERY POSITIVE ABOUT IT, ON THE OTHER HAND WE ARE ONCE BITTEN TWICE SHY. WE ARE NOT LETTING UP ON THE ARMED STRUGGLE. WE ARE INTENSIFYING THE ARMED STRUGGLE. SO THAT EITHER WAY, IF DR. KISSINGER'S MISSION FAILS, VERY GOOD, WE WILL CONTINUE TO FIGHT, WE WILL JUST INTENSIFY THE STRUGGLE. SO EITHER WAY WE ARE LOSING NOTHING.

Q. PRESIDENT NYERERE SAID HE FELT THAT IT WOULD BE A MIRACLE IF IAN SMITH MADE SUCH A DECLARATION. DO YOU THINK IT WOULD ALSO REQUIRE A MIRACLE?

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KAUNDA: I WOULD NOT LIKE TO COMMENT ON WHAT MY COLLEAGUE HAS SAID. I AM TELLING YOU WHAT I AM THINKING.

Q. WELL, IF DR. KISSINGER DOES NOT COME BACK WITH A FIRM COMMITMENT TO MAJORITY RULE IN RHODESIA, DOES THAT MEAN AS FAR AS YOU ARE CONCERNED THAT THE KISSINGER INITIATIVE IS AT AN END?

KAUNDA: THIS IS FOR DR. KISSINGER TO REPLY TO. I HAVE TOLD YOU THAT OUR STAND IS WE ARE FIGHTING EVEN NOW.

Q. BUT HE HAS SAID ALL ALONG THAT HE WILL ONLY DO WHAT THE FRONT LINE PRESIDENTS ASK HIM TO DO. WILL YOU ASK HIM THEN TO END HIS INITIATIVE?

KAUNDA: WELL, AFTER THAT HE WILL HAVE MET MR. VORSTER AND HE

WILL BE IN A POSITION TO SAY WHETHER ANY MORE INITIATIVE BY HIM WOULD BE USEFUL. TO US, WE GIVE HIM OUR BLESSINGS, BUT THAT WILL NOT INFLUENCE OUR FIGHTING SPIRIT AT ALL.

Q. YOUR EXCELLENCY, AS FAR AS WE ARE CONCERNED IN THIS PART OF THE WORLD, WE HAVE TO INTENSIFY THE WAR, NOW. DOES DR. KISSINGER GIVE YOU ANY REASON WHY HE THINKS AMERICA CAN PEACEFULLY END THIS WAR?

KAUNDA: WELL, OF COURSE, LOUIS, THE PROBLEMS OF SOUTHERN AFRICA ARE REALLY THE PROBLEMS OF THE WESTERN COUNTRIES. THE PEOPLE WHO ARE WHITES AND RESIDENTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA ARE OF WESTERN STOCKS, SO THE UNITED STATES, BEING A SUPER POWER IN TERMS OF WESTERN HEMISPHERE INFLUENCE, THEY NATURALLY BELIEVE THEY MIGHT BE ABLE TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS. BUT IF THEY FAIL, I HAVE SAID ALREADY, WE HAVE NOTHING TO LOSE BY THAT FAILURE.

Q. DID YOU ASK DR. KISSINGER FOR ANY AMERICAN ARMS HELP?

KAUNDA: I WANT HIM TO GO WITH A VERY CLEAR MIND. I WANT HIM TO BE IN A POSITIVE FRAME OF MIND WHEN HE GOES THERE. IT IS NOT VERY LONG. IF HE COMES BACK WITHOUT SUCCESS, THEN TALKS WILL ASSUME A VERY DIFFERENT POSTURE, IF I MAY SAY SO. THEN WE CAN DISCUSS WHAT HAPPENS AFTER THAT.

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Q. IN OTHER WORDS THEN YOU MIGHT ASK FOR AMERICAN MILITARY AID IF HIS SOUTH AFRICAN MISSION FAILS?

KAUNDA: NO, DON'T PUT WORDS IN MY MOUTH, MY DEAR BROTHER. I AM NOT SAYING THAT, I AM SAYING WE WILL DISCUSS AFTER THAT.

Q. PRESIDENT KAUNDA, WHEN YOU SAY WE WILL FIGHT, DOES THAT MEAN THAT ZAMBIA FORCES THEMSELVES WILL BE THROWN INTO THE STRUGGLE OR IS IT AN INTENSIFICATION OF YOUR SUPPORT FOR THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS?

KAUNDA: ZAMBIA HAS BEEN FIGHTING, MY DEAR BROTHER, EVER SINCE OUR INDEPENDENCE. ANGOLA BROUGHT BOMBINGS FROM THE FACIST PROTUGUESE FORCES IN MOZAMBIQUE UNTIL INDEPENDENCE CAME TO THOSE TWO COUNTRIES. WE HAVE SUFFERED FROM MINE WARFARE BY REBELS AND BY SOUTH AFRICA FACIST FORCES, ON THE COMMON BORDER WITH NAMIBIA, SO WE HAVE BEEN FIGHTING ALL ALONG AND OUR PEOPLE HAVE BEEN LOSING LIFE AND PROPERTY ALL THIS TIME.

Q. MR. PRESIDENT, CAN YOU SAY WHETHER AS A RESULT OF THIS MEETING YOU ARE MORE PESSIMISTIC OR LESS PESSIMISTIC ABOUT THE FUTURE OF THE SUB-CONTINENT?

KAUNDA: I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN AN OPTIMIST, MY DEAR BROTHER, THAT IS WHY I FIGHT, I FIGHT TO WIN AND WHEN WE FIGHT THE TIME FOR NEGOTIATIONS MUST COME, AND IN THIS RESPECT, IF THIS STAGE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS DOES NOT SUCCEED, AS THE LAST ONE IN WHICH ONLY US WERE INVOLVED, VERY GOOD, THE STRUGGLE CONTINUES. SO THERE IS NOTHING TO LOSE.

Q. MR. PRESIDENT, CAN YOU TELL US AS A RESULT OF YOUR MEETINGS YOU ARE MORE HOPEFUL THAT PROGRESS WILL BE MADE ON THE NAMIBIAN QUESTION RATHER THAN THE RHODESIAN MATTERS?

KAUNDA: NO. I AM SAYING THAT AS A FREEDOM FIGHTER MYSELF I AM EVER OPTIMISTIC. WHAT I AM TRYING TO SAY IS THAT THERE IS NO DIFFERENCE. WE HOPE AND PRAY DR. KISSINGER'S MISSION SUCCEEDS. IF IT DOESN'T SUCCEED, WE WILL CONTINUE. SOONER OR LATER WE ARE GOING TO NEGOTIATE. BUT THE FIGHT CONTINUES. SO WE ARE HAPPY AND IN A VERY HAPPY AND STRONG POSITION.

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THANK YOU VERY MUCH. BURNS UNQUOTE ROBINSON

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 16 SEP 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE230927
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter:
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D760352-0990
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t197609108/baaaeqcx.tel
Line Count: 275
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 6
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: vandyklc
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 MAR 2004 by MaustMC>; APPROVED <20 AUG 2004 by vandyklc>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENT KAUNDA'S PRESS CONFERENCE FOLLOWING IS FULL TEXT OF PRESIDENT KAUNDA'S PRESS CONFERENCE AT STATE HOUSE THIS MORNING, SEPTEMBER 17
TAGS: OVIP, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)
To: ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS INFO ALGIERS
CAIRO
PARIS
RABAT
THE HAGUE

TOKYO
TRIPOLI
TUNIS
XMT DAR ES SALAAM
KINSHASA
LUSAKA
NAIROBI
PRETORIA

Type: TE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006